

c.) **Amendments to the claims:**

Please cancel claims 120 and 121 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

The pending claims now include claims 99-102, 104-114, and 116-121 as follows:

1-98. (previously canceled).

99. (previously amended) A method for obtaining bioactive substances from plant material, comprising:

mechanically disrupting plant material comprising kava root;

contacting the disrupted material with a supercritical fluid containing carbon dioxide, an alcohol and an isopropyl amine, and separating the bioactive substances there from by supercritical fluid chromatography; and

collecting the bioactive substances with a resin trap.

100. (previously amended) The method of claim 99, wherein mechanically disrupting comprises grinding, crushing, macerating or a combination thereof.

101. (previously amended) The method of claim 99, wherein the disrupted material is contacted with the supercritical fluid at a minimum pressure of between 200 and 400 bar, and a maximum pressure of between 400 and 600 bar.

102. (previously amended) The method of claim 99, wherein the supercritical fluid chromatography comprises passing the supercritical fluid through an NH₂ column.

103. (original) The method of claim 99, wherein the resin trap is a C-18 resin.

104. (previously amended) The method of claim 99, wherein the column is maintained at a temperature of at least 90 degrees centigrade.

105. (previously amended) A method for obtaining a kawain or a methysticin from a kava root, comprising:

mechanically disrupting the kava root;

contacting the disrupted material with a supercritical fluid containing carbon dioxide, an alcohol and an isopropyl amine at a pressure of at least 350 atmospheres and separating substances there from by supercritical fluid chromatography;

collecting the substances with a resin trap; and

eluting the kawain or the methysticin from said substances.

106. (previously amended) The method of claim 105, wherein the alcohol is an ethanol and said ethanol comprises at least 15% of said supercritical fluid.

107. (previously amended) The method of claim 105, wherein the supercritical fluid chromatography is carried out at a temperature of at least 60 degrees centigrade.

108. (previously amended) The method of claim 105, wherein the pressure is maintained between 350 to 450 atmospheres.

109. (previously amended) The method of claim 105, wherein the supercritical fluid chromatography is carried out at a temperature of at least 90 degrees centigrade.

110. (previously amended) A method for obtaining a kavalactone from kava root, comprising:
mechanically disrupting a material containing kava root;

contacting the disrupted material with supercritical fluid containing carbon dioxide, an alcohol and an isopropyl amine, at a pressure of at least 275 atmospheres and separating the substances by supercritical fluid chromatography over an NH₂ column;

collecting the kavalactone with a resin trap.

111. (previously amended) The method of claim 110, wherein 15% by volume of the supercritical fluid is ethanol.

112. (previously amended) The method of claim 110, wherein the kavalactone is purified by supercritical fluid chromatography over another NH₂ column.

113. (previously amended) The method of claim 110, wherein the NH₂ column is operated at a temperature above 40 degrees centigrade.

114. (previously amended) The method of claim 110, wherein the supercritical fluid chromatography comprises a gradient of from 7% to 10% methanol.
115. (original) The method of claim 110, wherein the column is maintained at a temperature of at least 90 degrees centigrade.
116. (previously amended) A method for obtaining bioactive substances from a plant material, comprising:
- mechanically disrupting plant material comprising kava root;
 - contacting the disrupted material with a supercritical fluid containing isopropyl amine, carbon dioxide and an alcohol;
 - collecting the bioactive substances with a resin trap;
 - eluting the bioactive substances from the resin trap by supercritical fluid chromatography over an NH_2 column.
117. (previously amended) The method of claim 116, wherein the isopropyl amine is mixed into the alcohol prior to mixing the alcohol with the carbon dioxide.
118. (previously amended) The method of claim 116, wherein the column is maintained at a temperature of at least 90 degrees centigrade.
119. (previously amended) The method of claim 116, wherein mechanically disrupting comprises grinding, crushing, macerating or a combination thereof.
120. (presently canceled).
121. (presently canceled).